Update for Community Groups – March 2016

Please note the underlined text in the electronic version of this update contains active links that provide additional information on the subject matter.

- 1st for positive impact – social mobility, research productivity and civic engagement for 6th consecutive year (Washington Monthly’s College Guide)
- 16 Nobel Prizes among 1,500 Academic Senate faculty
- 161 National Academy current members, 3rd public university in the nation (The Center for Measuring University Performance)
- 5th in federal R&D funding – Over $1B, 1st in the UC system (NSF)
- Doctoral Programs ranked 1st in the nation: Bioengineering, Biology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- Best Hospital in San Diego (U.S. News & World Report)
- 8th best public university in the nation (U.S. News & World Report)
- 14th best university in the world (Academic Ranking of World Universities)
- “Best value” for more than a decade (The Princeton Review)
- Most environmentally responsible green college (The Princeton Review)
- 650+ spinoff companies generated by faculty and alumni
  - Over 200 active local UC San Diego-related companies
  - Total estimated annual sales of active UC San Diego-related companies: $32.4 billion
  - Direct jobs attributable to active UC San Diego-related companies: 29,200

PROJECTS

Location of instructional and research facilities, as well as necessary campus support facilities, such as housing and parking, is directed by UC San Diego’s Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), which is prepared in response to campus enrollment and population projections. Available on the Physical and Community Planning website at http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/projects/index.html is the Capital Improvements Status Map which is an interactive map where major campus projects are identified by location and are linked to detailed project information sheets.

ALTMAN CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This project located in the east campus is reaching completion and will provide the space necessary to consolidate and expand the “bench to bedside” translational research on the East Campus. The project will create a multidisciplinary environment that brings together laboratory scientists and clinical investigators in order to foster translation of fundamental biological discoveries into new treatments and to enhance understanding of human disease.

This facility will provide approximately 330,000 gross square feet of new clinical research space including dry and wet laboratories, human subject research space, administrative support spaces and faculty physician offices for the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center. The project will also increase chilled water, high temperature hot water and emergency power capacity on the East Campus and extend utility distribution systems to serve the new building.
PUBLIC OPINION EXPERT DANIEL YANKELOVICH ENDOWS MULTIMILLION DOLLAR FUND AT UC SAN DIEGO  Article Courtesy Judy Piercey

Bequest to continue support for the Yankelovich Center for Social Science Research, which aims to find solutions to pressing and complex problems that confront our nation.

In a career spanning 50 years, renowned social researcher and public opinion analyst Daniel Yankelovich cared what people thought. Now his focus is on improving how people live. To further that interest, he has established, through a bequest, a multimillion dollar endowed fund to support the UC San Diego Yankelovich Center for Social Science Research.

The problem-driven research center in the university’s Division of Social Sciences is proceeding along two related paths. It is originating a research agenda and mobilizing multidisciplinary teams of scholars on key issues, beginning with upward mobility. And it provides seed funding for projects by UC San Diego researchers that show promise of significant national impact.

Yankelovich has helped fund the center since its inception, including a $100,000 start-up gift last fall to support the center’s current research focus. The Upward Mobility project strikes a personal chord with Yankelovich, aged 91. “Back when I was a kid, the American Dream was very real for me,” he said. “I had a limited understanding of how to make a living but there were so many sources of opportunity. I want us to find practical ways, bipartisan ways, of reversing the current trend—and bringing back equality of opportunity in all of its ‘American Dream’ vitality.”

Known as the “dean of American pollsters,” Yankelovich has spent decades monitoring social change and public opinion. Building on an academic career that included Harvard University and the Sorbonne in Paris, he engaged in various interests that eventually led to a commercial research career. Founder of several nonpartisan public policy research organizations, including Public Agenda, he is perhaps best known for starting the New York Times/Yankelovich poll, now replaced by the New York Times/CBS News poll.

“We are honored to have Daniel Yankelovich as a friend and advisor to our campus,” said UC San Diego Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla. “With his generous bequest - one of the largest gifts made to the Division of Social Sciences - and his expertise, I am confident that our research focus on social mobility and other social sciences research will have a national impact.”

Why does Yankelovich support UC San Diego? He explained, “I think the university has an appetite for leadership that is not resting on its laurels; it’s open-minded and willing to consider ways to change in order meet the objectives of higher education. And I think there is a willingness to reform higher education in order to meet the goals the country has set as a means of revitalizing equality of opportunity.” He believes that private support is essential to launching campus initiatives that otherwise might not take place. “The Yankelovich Center is certainly a good example. You wouldn’t have this drive to add capability to the university to address real problems unless philanthropic initiatives get it going.”

Yankelovich considers his finest career achievement developing new methods of dialogue and deliberation for helping the public convert raw opinion into thoughtful judgment. “Opinion polls just measure people’s unresolved, half-baked feelings and views,” he said. “The challenge is to help the public think through, deliberate, dissolve their own conflicts and finally reach considered judgment. From my view as a student of public opinion, converting raw opinion into considered judgment is indispensable to the efficient functioning of public democracy.”

“We thank Dan, a great friend to the campus and to the Division of Social Sciences, for this generous bequest that will continue his support—in perpetuity—to the Yankelovich Center,” said UC San Diego Social Sciences Dean Carol Padden. “We do ‘the science of society’ in our division and take seriously our public mandate, linking theory to action. We seek not only to understand humans as individuals and together in groups, but also to make all of our lives better. The Yankelovich Center is exemplary of that vision.”

Yankelovich hopes his bequest to support the Yankelovich Center will accomplish two key objectives. First, to develop a model that other universities can follow on how to use the social sciences to address the nation’s most urgent problems. And second, because he feels that the social sciences are being deflected by the misleading model of basic research leading to applied research—with the emphasis on basic—one of his purposes is to blur that distinction to show how applied research leads to theory.

To support the work of the center with a financial contribution, please contact the Division of Social Sciences’ philanthropy office at (858) 822-0805 or visit yankelovichcenter.ucsd.edu.